

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 037505
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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 037505

FOR MATLOCK FROM GARRISON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. FOR LARRY NAPPER: AS YOU HAD REQUESTED BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE FROM MOSCOW, CLIFF GROSS CHECKED WITH MACKLIN RE ASSIGNMENT POSSIBILITIES OTHER THAN BOTSWANA. MACKLIN WAS PLEASANT AND GRACIOUS, BUT INSISTED AGAIN THERE WERE ABSOLUTELY NO OTHER POLITICAL CONE ASSIGNMENTS AVAILABLE AT YOUR LEVEL. EVEN THE MAPUTO OPTION HAS FALLEN THROUGH. LEN WILLEMS AND OTHER PEOPLE HERE BELIEVE THAT BOTSWANA IS AN EXCELLENT ASSIGNMENT BOTH FROM CAREER POINT OF VIEW AND PLEASANT LIVING CONDITIONS. IN ANY CASE, CLIFF REGRETS HE COULDN'T INSPIRE ANOTHER ASSIGNMENT, BUT BELIEVES YOU MAY BE PLEASANTLY SURPRISED AT GAMBARONE.

2. SORRY WE GAVE YOU A BUM STEER ON THE HANDLING OF THE LETTER LAST NIGHT BUT AS I'M SURE TOM DETECTED WE WERE IN CONFIDENTIAL

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THE DARK TOO-AS WAS EVERYONE ELSE IN TOWN. IT IS QUITE A STORY HERE, AND WE ARE WORKING HARD TO KEEP BOTH PRESSO OPERATIONS FROM COMMENTING OR BACKGROUNDING. PLEASE WARN YOUR PEOPLE TO DO THE SAME.

3. KOKOSHKIN TOLD MARSHALL THAT VORONTSOV RETURNED TO MOSCOW POST HASTE TO CALM THE LEADERSHIP, WHICH BY HIS VERSION

WAS EXTREMELY UPSET. THE RESIDENT WENT BACK WITH HIM ON TUESDAY. THIS WAS PROBABLY AFTER OUR MAN TIPPED THE SO-VIETS OFF TO THE FACT THAT THE LETTER WAS COMING. HE AND OTHERS SUGGESTED THAT A POSSIBLE TOP LEVEL REACTION WOULD BE TO IMPOSE A LINKAGE OF THEIR OWN. WE DOUBT IT, BUT NOT THAT THE SUSLOV CROWD WOULD URGE IT. WONDER WHATS COMING NEXT ?

4. FURTHER ON VORONTSOV, WHEN TOLYA WAS IN THIS EVENING HE SAID HIS DEPUTY HAD BEEN CALLED BACK REGARDING A POSSIBLE TRANSFER AND PROMOTION.

5. FURTHER TO PARA 2, OUR BUM STEER WAS ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM DOWN THE AVENUE AS WELL AS IN OUR OWN BUILDING. TOM'S CALL WAS MOST TIMELY AND ENABLED US TO ALERT EVERYONE IN THE CITY. NO ONE HAD SEEN ORDER TO YOU.
HARTMAN

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